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NEWS RELEASE

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DEA Kratom Change “Toothless” Without United States Government Enforcement, Says NPA

NPA Says Surge in Use Example of Government’s Unwillingness to Enforce Laws

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Natural Products Association (NPA) today responded to the United States Drug Enforcement Agency’s (DEA) decision to add kratom and mitragynine to its list of schedule I drugs.

Dan Fabricant, Ph.D., CEO and Executive Director of NPA:

“Kratom has been a public health target for almost five years, and its surging growth in use and availability is an unfortunate but real example of the federal government’s unwillingness to use existing authorities to enforce the law. This is a necessary and welcome step, but unless it is followed with real enforcement and penalties for those who are selling it in coffee bars, on the internet, and elsewhere, it will be toothless.

“Kratom is not an herbal supplement: it is addictive, harmful, and worse, it may be contributing to America’s opiate epidemic. We are eager to work with the authorities and our members to help turn the tide against Kratom and ensure that it is seen as what the DEA says it is, a schedule I illegal narcotic that has no place in health or wellness.”

Natural Products Association

The **Natural Products Association (NPA)** is *the* trade association representing the entire natural products industry. We advocate for our members who supply, manufacture and sell natural ingredients or products for consumers. The Natural Products Association promotes good manufacturing practices as part of the growth and success of the industry. Founded in 1936, NPA represents over 2,000 members accounting for more than 10,000 locations of retailers, manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of natural products, including foods, dietary supplements, and health/beauty aids. Visit www.NPainfo.org. Follow NPA on social media:

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